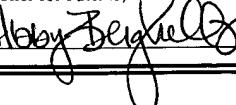




Patent  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/057,414  
Docket No. P040

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail No. \_\_\_\_\_ in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: 11-22-04

Signature:  (Abby Berghella)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
John F. Shanley

Application No.: 10/057,414

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: January 25, 2002

Examiner: Thaler, Michael H.

For: EXPANDABLE MEDICAL DEVICE WITH  
TAPERED HINGE

Confirmation No.: 9725

### AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Non-Final Office Action dated June 21, 2004 for which a response is due on September 21, 2004. A Two-Month Extension of Time accompanies this Amendment thereby extending the due date to November 21, 2004. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

11/30/2004 WABDELR1 00000005 503100 1005714  
02 FC:2202 36.00 DA